

**REMARKS**

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 19 through 29 are pending. Claims 1-18 are cancelled; claims 19, 20, 22 & 23 are amended.

In the office action mailed August 28, 2006, the examiner indicated that claims 19-29 are allowable, and that the application is in condition for allowance with the exception of certain formal matters.

**Claim 19**

The examiner indicated that on line 4, the word "things" renders the claim vague and indefinite. The examiner also indicated that on lines 11-12, it is unclear what "intelligent database objects," are. Claim 19 has been amended to eliminate the word "things," and to recite "database objects," in lieu of "intelligent database objects."

**Claim 20**

The examiner indicated that "fulfillment process" lacks clear antecedent basis. Claim 20 has been amended to recite "a fulfillment process," in lieu of "the fulfillment process."

**Claim 22**

(1) The examiner indicated that on line 2, "an" before "activity" should be changed to "the." Claim 22 has been amended to incorporate the examiner's suggestion.

(2) The examiner also indicated that on line 3, the phrase "and operating and said attributes and communications define that activity or item" appears to be confusing and not grammatically correct. Claim 22 has been amended to recite "and operating rule and said attributes and communications define that activity."

(3) Further, the examiner indicated that on line 5, it is not clear what is meant by the phrase "meaningfully described." Claim 22 has been amended to recite "described" in lieu of "meaningfully described."

**Claim 23**

(1) Regarding claim 23, the examiner indicated that on lines 4 and 16, the words "things" and "thing" renders the claim vague and indefinite because it is unclear as to what encompasses "things." Claim 23 has been amended to eliminate "things" and "thing" on lines 4 and 16, respectively.

(2) The examiner also indicated that on line 5, the claim refers to "secondary interfaces" when there was no previous recitation of a first interface. The term "secondary interfaces" in claim 23 corresponds to the recitation of "secondary interface" throughout the specification. Thus, applicant believes that the language "secondary interfaces" is appropriate in claim 23.

(3) Further, the examiner indicated that on line 5, it is unclear what "intelligent database objects" are. Claim 23 has been amended to recite "database objects" in lieu of "intelligent database objects."

(4) The examiner indicated that on line 9, "the operating rule" lacks clear antecedent basis. Claim 23 has been amended to recite "an operating rule," in lieu of "the operating rule."

(5) On lines 13 and 15, the examiner suggests changing the first occurrence of "the" to "an." Claim 23 has been amended to incorporate the examiner's suggestion.

(6) On line 19, the examiner noted that "the fulfillment process" lacks clear antecedent basis." Claim 23 has been amended to recite "a fulfillment process" in lieu of "the fulfillment process."

(7) On line 22, the examiner indicated that "object" should be changed to "objects." Claim 23 has been amended to incorporate the examiner's suggestion.

**Submission of Formal Drawings**

Applicant submits herewith 7 sheets of formal drawings.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to that effect is respectfully requested.

No fees are believed to be due with this communication. Should any fees be due, however, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge such required fees to deposit account **04-1679**.

Respectfully submitted,



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